

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01  
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05  
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 EPG-02 AID-05  
SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02  
OMB-01 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SIL-01 /102 W  
-----065343 060626Z /14

R 060545Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9154

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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USMTN USEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, MTN, JA

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF U.S. POSITION ON AUTOMATIC IMPORT LICENSING

REF: STATE 140759

1. JAPAN HAS FOUR IMPORT MONITORING AND CONTROL SYSTEMS: A) IMPORT QUOTAS; B) THE IMPORT DECLARATION SYSTEM (IDS) UNDER WHICH THE IMPORTATION OF ANY ITEM VALUED OVER \$1,000 (TO BE RAISED TO \$3,000 IN AUGUST) REQUIRES THE SIMPLE SUBMISSION OF AN IMPORT DECLARATION FORM TO AN AUTHORIZED FOREIGN EXCHANGE BANK; C) THE PRIOR CERTIFICATION SYSTEM ADMINISTERED BY THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MITI); AND D) THE PRIOR APPROVAL SYSTEM (NON-AUTOMATIC) ALSO ADMINISTERED BY MITI. SINCE IMPORT QUOTAS AND PRIOR APPROVALS ARE NOT AUTOMATIC AND SINCE THE IMPORT DECLARATION IS NOT GOJ ADMINISTERED IT WOULD APPEAR THAT ONLY THE PRIOR CERTIFICATION SYSTEM CORRESPONDS TO AN AUTOMATIC IMPORT LICENSE PROCEDURE. WE HAVE NEVERTHELESS ALSO INCLUDED DESCRIPTIONS OF THE ID AND  
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PA SYSTEMS.

2. PRIOR CERTIFICATION.

A) FUNCTION: SURVEILLANCE; PURPOSE: TO MONITOR SPECIFIC COMMODITIES WHOSE IMPORTATION IS SHARPLY INCREASING UNDER THE IMPORT DECLARATION SYSTEM. IF IMPORTS ARE FOUND TO BE DAMAGING DOMESTIC INDUSTRY THE ITEM MAY BE PLACED UNDER A QUOTA.

B) THE IMPORT DECLARATION SYSTEM WOULD SEEM TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE INFORMATION.

C) COMMODITIES CURRENTLY SUBJECT TO PRIOR CERTIFICATION ARE: TUNA, SEAWEED, TOBACCO, PLAIN SILK FABRIC.

D) THE SYSTEM ITSELF IS NOT KNOWN TO CAUSE DELAYS.

E) THE MONITORING OF PLAIN SILK FABRIC IS CLEARLY DIRECTED AT SOUTH KOREA AND THE PRC.

### 3. PRIOR APPROVAL SYSTEM.

FUNCTION: TO MONITOR AND CONTROL IMPORTS IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES: A) GIFTS, DONATIONS AND OTHER IMPORTS REQUIRING NO PAYMENT; B) CONSIGNMENT SALE ITEMS (THIS CATEGORY IS SCHEDULED TO BE ELIMINATED IN AUGUST); C) ITEMS TO BE PROCURED BY COMMISSION; D) IMPORTS FROM MITI DESIGNATED PLACES OF ORIGIN (E.G. SOUTHERN RHODESIA); E) IMPORTS THAT DO NOT CONFORM TO THE STANDARD METHOD OF SETTLEMENT, I.E., PAYMENT WITHIN FOUR MONTHS OF CUSTOMS CLEARANCE IN A FOREIGN CURRENCY OR FREE YEN.

4. IMPORT DECLARATION. THIS SYSTEM ENABLES MITI TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON IMPORTS EARLIER THAN BY RELYING ON CUSTOMS CLEARANCE STATISTICS. IF TRENDS DEVELOP TO CAUSE CONCERN, MITI HAS AUTHORITY TO MOVE AN ITEM FROM THE ID CATEGORY TO THE PRIOR CERTIFICATION CATEGORY AND ULTIMATELY TO PLACE IT UNDER A QUOTA.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** IMPORTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, IMPORT CONTROLS, LICENSES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TOKYO10034  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770239-0046  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** TOKYO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770785/aaaacwmt.tel  
**Line Count:** 86  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:** Hold (001 Tobacco) added on 4/16/2009 3:39:06 PM by WASHDCMcGoldRJ, Hold (001 Tobacco) removed on 4/16/2009 3:45:04 PM by WASHDCMcGoldRJ (Litigation Hold Lifted)  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 7b633570-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 140759  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1945990  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REVIEW OF U.S. POSITION ON AUTOMATIC IMPORT LICENSING  
**TAGS:** ETRD, JA, GATT, MTN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/7b633570-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009